AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Claim 1 (cancelled)

Claim 2 (cancelled)

Claim 3 (cancelled)

Claim 4 (cancelled)

Claim 5 (cancelled)

Claim 6 (cancelled)

Claim 7 (cancelled)

Claim 8 (cancelled)

Claim 9 (cancelled)

Claim 10 (cancelled)

Claim 11 (cancelled)

Claim 12 (cancelled)

Claim 13 (cancelled)

Claim 14 (cancelled)

Claim 15 (cancelled)

Claim 16 (cancelled)

Claim 17 (cancelled)

Claim 18 (cancelled)

Claim 19 (cancelled)

Claim 20 (cancelled)

Claim 21 (cancelled)

Claim 21 (cancelled)

Claim 22 (cancelled)

oc-fs1\40467y07\59419.01(102 PAGE 6/19 * RCVD AT 1/23/2006 12:53:52 PM [Eastern Standard Time] * SVR:USPTO-EFXRF-6/29 * DNIS:2738300 * CSID: * DURATION (mm-ss):07-02

Claim 23 (cancelled)

Claim 24 (cancelled)

Claim 25 (cancelled)

Claim 26 (cancelled)

Claim 27 (cancelled)

Claim 28 (cancelled)

Claim 29 (cancelled)

Claim 30 (cancelled)

Claim 31 (cancelled)

Claim 32 (cancelled)

Claim 33 (cancelled)

Claim 34 (cancelled)

Claim 35 (cancelled)

Claim 36 (cancelled)

Claim 37 (cancelled)

Claim 38 (cancelled)

Claim 39 (cancelled)

Claim 40 (cancelled)

Claim 41 (cancelled)

Claim 42 (cancelled)

Claim 43 (cancelled)

Claim 44 (cancelled)

Claim 45 (cancelled)

Claim 46 (cancelled)

Claim 47 (cancelled) oc-f31\40467\07\59419.010102

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Claim 48 (cancelled)

Claim 49 (cancelled)

Claim 50 (cancelled)

Claim 51 (cancelled)

Claim 52 (original): A method for controlling entry of a flavivirus into a cell, the flavivirus exhibiting a flavivirus envelope protein, the flavivirus envelope protein comprising a domain III of the flavivirus envelope protein, the method comprising administering to the cell an agent functionally interfering with the domain III of the flavivirus envelope protein.

Claim 53 (new): The method of claim 52, wherein the domain III has a sequence substantially homologous to SEQ ID NO: 20 or SEQ ID NO: 21.

Claim 54 (new): The method of claim 52, wherein the agent hybridized to the Domain III has a sequence substantially homologous to SEQ ID NO: 20 or SEQ ID NO: 21.

Claim 55 (original): A method for treating a flavivirus infection in a vertebrate, the flavivirus exhibiting a flavivirus envelope protein, the flavivirus envelope protein comprising a domain III, the method comprising:

administering to the vertebrate a pharmaceutically effective amount of an agent functionally inhibiting the domain III of the envelope protein of the flavivirus.

Claim 56 (new): 'The method of claim 55, wherein the domain has a sequence substantially homologous to SEQ ID NO: 20 or SEQ ID NO: 21.

Claim 57 (original): The method of claim [[31]]55, wherein the agent is a functional blocking antibody against the domain III.

Claim 58 (original): The method of claim [[31]]55, wherein the agent is a competitive ligand of domain III.

Claim 59 (original): The method of claim [[31]]55, wherein the flavivirus is a member of the Japanese encephalitis serocomplex.

Claim 60 (original): The method of claim [[35]]59, wherein the flavivirus is West Nile Virus.

Claim 61 (original): The method of claim [[31]]55, wherein the vertebrate is a human being.

Claim 62 (original): Pharmaceutical composition for the treatment of a flavivirus infection in a vertebrate, the flavivirus exhibiting an envelope protein comprising a domain III, the pharmaceutical composition comprising:

a pharmaceutically effective amount of an agent functionally inhibiting the domain III of the envelope protein and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier, vehicle or auxiliary agent.

Claim 63 (original): The pharmaceutical composition of claim [[38]]62, wherein the interfering agent is a functional blocking antibody against the domain III.

Claim 64 (original): The pharmaceutical composition of claim [[40]]62, wherein the interfering agent is competitive ligand for the domain III.

Claim 65 (new): The pharmaceutical composition of claim 62, wherein the interfering agent is a functional sequence substantially homologous to SEQ ID NO: 20 or SEQ ID NO: 21.

Claim 66 (original): A method for inducing immunity to a flavivirus in a vertebrate susceptible to infection of the flavivirus, the flavivirus exhibiting an envelope protein comprising a domain III, the method comprising:

administering to the vertebrate an immunogenic amount of a polypeptide comprising the domain III of the envelope protein of the flavivirus.

Claim 67 (new): The method of claim 66, wherein the domain III comprises a portion having a sequence substantially homologous to SEQ ID NO: 20 or SEQ ID NO: 21.

Claim 68 (new): The method of claim 66, wherein the polypeptide comprises sequence substantially homologous to SEQ ID NO: 20 or SEQ ID NO: 21.

Claim 69 (new): The method of claim 66 further comprising the step of diagnosing the flavivirus exhibiting an envelope protein domain III, wherein the diagnosis is accomplished using:

at least one agent able to bind to the domain III associated with an identifier; and

at least one reagent able to detect the identifier.

Claim 70 (original): A vaccine for a flavivirus, the flavivirus exhibiting an envelope protein comprising a domain III, the vaccine comprising, as an active agent, a polypeptide comprising the domain III of the envelope protein of the flavivirus.